

species or remarkable varieties; and offers many useful observations on the agricultural and other properties of the grasses figured. It was printed by Bensley, and the whole impression, with the exception of 100 copies in the hands of the binder, was destroyed by the fire which consumed the establishment of that printer soon after its completion. To this accident Mr. Knapp alludes in a poem, entitled "Progress of a Naturalist," printed at the end of the third edition of his 'Journal of a Naturalist,' and in the preface to a new edition of the 'Gramina Britannica,' which he issued in 1842, with little alteration of the original text and no addition of species.

In 1818 Mr. Knapp published anonymously a poem in 8vo, entitled "Arthur, or the Pastor of the Village," and between 1820 and 1830 he contributed a series of articles called "The Naturalist's Diary" to 'Time's Telescope.' In 1829 he also published without his name a little work entitled 'The Journal of a Naturalist,' which gives a pleasing idea of the pursuits by which a country gentleman imbued with a taste for natural history may amuse his leisure. Of this work a second and a third edition have since appeared.

In 1804 he married Lydia Frances, the daughter of Arthur Freeman, Esq., of Antigua, by whom he had seven children, three only of whom, two sons and a daughter, survive. Shortly afterwards he took up his residence at Llanfoist near Abergavenny, where he continued until 1813, when he removed to Alveston in the neighbourhood of Bristol, at which place he died on the 29th of April in the present year. His latter years were spent almost entirely in the pursuit of his favourite study of natural history and in the cultivation of his garden. His unpublished drawings of British *Fungi* occupy five 4to volumes. He became a Fellow of the Linnean Society in the year 1796, and was also a Fellow of the Society of Antiquaries.

*The Earl of Mountnorris* (more generally known by the title of his youth, *Lord Valentia*) was born at Arley Castle, Staffordshire, on the 7th of December 1770, and educated at Oxford. In 1789 he visited France and Germany; and in 1802, accompanied by Mr. Salt as his draughtsman and secretary, he commenced the interesting journey, of which he subsequently published an account, in three volumes 4to, under the title of 'Voyages and Travels in India, the Red Sea, Abyssinia and Egypt,' 1802-6. He sat for a short time in parliament, and succeeded to the earldom on the death of his father in 1816. His own death took place at the seat of his birth on the 23rd of July last, in the 74th year of his age.

His lordship became a Fellow of the Linnean Society in 1796, and of the Royal Society also in the same year. During his travels he paid some attention to natural history and made a small botanical collection.

*The Marquis of Sligo.*

*John Smirnove, Esq.*

*John Wedgewood, Esq.*, of Seabridge, Staffordshire, was conversant with various branches of natural history, and especially botany. He was also much attached to chemistry and horticulture, and contributed several papers to the 'Transactions of the Horticultural So-

ciety,' and the 'Gardener's Chronicle.' Mr. Wedgewood was held in great esteem as a man of high moral worth and amiable and generous disposition. He was born about March 1766, and died on the 26th of January 1844.

The Society has also lost by death three of its *Foreign Members*.

*Richard Harlan, M.D.*, was of Quaker parentage and born in the city of Philadelphia about the year 1795. He studied medicine under Dr. Joseph Parrish, one of the surgeons of the Pennsylvania Hospital, whose anatomical assistant he became, dissecting extensively himself and directing the dissections of the younger pupils. In 1817, at which time he was settled in practice, he had already commenced the study of comparative anatomy with zeal and success; and there is reason to believe that his devotion to natural history interfered greatly with the brilliant prospect that was opened to him as a medical practitioner. But he had made his choice, and was quite prepared to sacrifice fortune and professional eminence to his favourite pursuit. As early as 1819 he delivered a course of lectures on Comparative Anatomy at the Philadelphia Museum (Peale's), where he had amassed a considerable stock of materials for demonstration, but the attendance was small, and he gave up lecturing in disappointment.

About this period the return of MacLure to the United States, accompanied by Lesueur, gave a new stimulus to the cultivation of natural history, and the complete establishment of the Academy of Natural Sciences of Philadelphia under the Presidency of MacLure brought together the most distinguished names in the science that America had produced. Among Dr. Harlan's claims to remembrance, not the least are derived from his zeal in the early constitution of this Society, and from his example of sedulous devotion to its pursuits. To the pages of its Journal he contributed numerous valuable papers.

In 1825 he published his 'Fauna Americana; being a Description of the Mammiferous Animals inhabiting North America,' a work partly compiled from Desmarest's 'Mammalogie' and from other less-known publications, but containing in addition much useful original matter.

In 1832, when the Asiatic cholera made its first appearance at Quebec and Montreal, considerable apprehension was excited in the public mind, and Dr. Harlan was appointed by the City Councils of Philadelphia one of a Commission of three, consisting of himself, Dr. Jackson and Dr. Meigs, to proceed to Canada, "to inquire into the origin, nature, progress, &c. of the prevailing epidemic." After making extensive inquiries, the Commission returned to Philadelphia with such a mass of information on the subject as enabled them to give to the people of that city ample warning of the nature of the premonitory symptoms and of the precautions to be adopted, and thereby greatly to mitigate the severity of the disease and to reduce the number of its victims. For his tripartite share in this service Dr. Harlan received a handsome gratuity from the municipal authorities, together with a piece of silver plate bearing an inscription in record of its

object; and he was also appointed to the charge of one of the local hospitals, in the conduct of which he was most successful.

He subsequently married the daughter of a Quaker merchant in Philadelphia, by whom he had several children. His first visit to England was made about this time; but he afterwards returned to Europe with the design of establishing himself in practice in Paris. In this object, however, he was disappointed, and he once more sought refuge in his native city. Here again he was doomed to disappointment, and he was at length led to believe that a better chance of success was opened for him at New Orleans, in which city he fell a victim to disease when there was just reason for thinking that he was on the point of meeting with that success which his talents and acquirements so well deserved. He became suddenly hemiplegic, and died in the course of a few days from the time of his attack in the autumn or late summer of 1844.

He was elected a Foreign Member of the Linnean Society in 1835; and in the same year he collected his various scattered memoirs into an 8vo volume, entitled 'Medical and Physical Researches; or Original Memoirs in Medicine, Surgery, Physiology, Geology, Zoology and Comparative Anatomy.' The greater part of this volume consists of papers previously published; but it also contains several not before given to the world. Those relating to natural history occupy a very considerable portion of the work, and contain much valuable information.

*Etienne Geoffroy St. Hilaire* was born at Étampes on the 15th of April 1772, and destined for the ecclesiastical profession; but an early introduction to Haüy, whose pupil he became, entirely changed the character of his pursuits, and for a time he gave himself up almost entirely to the study of mineralogy. When, in consequence of the events of the 10th of August 1792, Haüy was thrown into prison, and placed, in common with so many others, in extreme peril of his life, young Geoffroy ardently exerted himself to procure the liberation of his teacher, which he succeeded in accomplishing, and was repaid for his exertions by the zealous friendship of the great mineralogist. On the warm recommendation of Haüy, Daubenton procured for him on the 13th of March 1793 the appointment of Assistant Keeper and Demonstrator of the Museum of Natural History, vacated by the resignation of Lacépède; and on the 10th of June in the same year, when the *Jardin des Plantes* was re-organized in conformity with a decree of the Convention, Geoffroy, then only 21 years old, was appointed to the Professorship of Zoology for the Vertebrated Animals, the duties of which he afterwards shared with Lacépède. From this period he devoted his whole attention to zoology, and several valuable papers which he published in the 'Décade Philosophique' and 'Magazin Encyclopédique' attest the rapidity of his progress in his new pursuit.

In 1798 he was appointed one of the scientific Commission which accompanied the French army into Egypt, and whose labours have added so much celebrity to that expedition. Of these labours M. Geoffroy contributed an important share, and to his firmness science

in all probability owes their preservation. When the French army were about to evacuate the country, the papers and drawings belonging to the Commission were demanded by the English general; but a resolute intimation of their determination to commit the whole to the flames, if the demand were persisted in, delivered through the mouth of M. Geoffroy, had its proper effect—Lord Hutchinson withdrew his orders, and the Commission were left in possession of the fruits of their researches.

On his return to Paris from this expedition M. Geoffroy resumed his lectures at the *Jardin des Plantes*, and occupied himself assiduously in adding to the zoological collections of the museum and in improving their arrangement. He was elected a Member of the Institute in 1807; and in 1810 was again despatched on a mission to Portugal. After encountering great dangers on his road through Spain, arising from the excited state of the country, he arrived in Portugal, where he succeeded in accumulating large collections of minerals and animals, chiefly obtained from the cabinets of the Palace of Ajuda and of the Academy of Lisbon. In pursuance of the capitulation for the evacuation of Portugal by the French, the restoration of these collections was demanded by General Beresford and Lord Proby; but M. Geoffroy claiming them as his private property, and the conservators of the collections from which they were obtained declaring that they had been given to him in exchange for other specimens and in return for services, he was suffered to retain them, and in 1815 they were not reclaimed by Portugal. In this last-named year M. Geoffroy was elected Member of the Chamber of Deputies for his native town. He had been a Member of the Legion of Honour from the establishment of the order; and became gradually associated with a large number of scientific Societies throughout the world. His election as a Foreign Member of the Linnæan Society took place in 1824, and he died on the 19th of June 1844.

A mere list of his zoological writings would occupy a considerable space. Besides a number of important papers in the 'Annales' and 'Mémoires du Muséum d'Histoire Naturelle,' in the 'Bulletin de la Société Philomathique,' in the 'Annales des Sciences Naturelles,' in the 'Dictionnaire des Sciences Naturelles,' and in other scientific miscellanies, he published separately several works which have contributed in no small degree to the progress of zoological and anatomical science. Among these the most important is his 'Philosophie Anatomique,' in two vols., published in 1818 and 1823; the first entitled 'Des Organes Respiratoires sous le rapport de la détermination et de l'identité de leurs pièces osseuses,' the second 'Des Monstruosités Humaines.' In this work he endeavours to demonstrate throughout the animal kingdom a uniform plan of organization, recognizable by the existence, not of the same organs, but of the materials of the same organs in all. From the period of the publication of his 'Philosophie Anatomique,' this "unity of composition" became the leading idea of all his writings. It was the subject of a lengthened discussion between him and Cuvier; and presides over his 'Système Dentaire des Mammifères et des Oiseaux,' published in 1824, his 'Considérations Générales sur les Monstres,' in 1826,

his 'Cours de l'Histoire Naturelle des Mammifères,' of which only one volume appeared in 1829, as well as over numerous notes and memoirs on the structure of *Marsupialia* and *Monotremata*, published at various times. To him, conjointly with Cuvier, France is indebted for the elevated position in zoology which she has occupied for the last half century. Following up with equal zeal and success the career of anatomical investigation opened for them by Daubenton, Vicq d'Azyr and others, and adding to the habits of minute investigation of those excellent observers a spirit of philosophical generalization, these two great zoologists created a school in which the study assumed a really scientific character. From this school have emanated the most valuable contributions that zoology has received in our times, and it will long continue to exercise a salutary influence over the labours of succeeding generations.

*Karl Bernhard von Trinius* was born at Eisleben on the 7th of March 1778. He devoted himself at an early age to the study of botany, and especially of the grasses, on which he published numerous highly important works. Of these the principal separate publications are: 'Fundamenta Agrostographiæ, sive Theoria constructionis Floris Graminei, adjectâ Synopsi Generum Graminum hucusque cognitorum,' 8vo, Viennæ, 1820; 'Clavis Agrostographiæ Antiquioris,' Coburgi, 1822; 'De Graminibus unifloris et sesquifloris Dissertatio Botanica,' 8vo, Petropoli, 1824; and 'Species Graminum Iconibus et Descriptionibus illustratæ,' in three vols. folio, Petropoli, 1828, 1829 and 1836. His contributions on the same subject to the Memoirs of the Academy of St. Petersburg were numerous and important, including a revision of the genera and species of *Panicææ* in the restricted sense of that tribe, of *Stipeæ*, of *Bambuseæ*, &c.

In these works he propounded a theory of the structure of the gramineous flower, which although supported with much ingenuity, has met with little acceptance among botanists. But his systematic labours on the family have contributed in no small degree to its elucidation, and his patient and elaborate investigations will ensure him a distinguished position among that valuable class of observers who devote themselves to the study of a single family of large extent.

M. Trinius had long been resident at St. Petersburg, where he became a Corresponding Member of the Academy in 1810, and an Effective Member in 1823. He was also for many years Director, as indeed he was in a great degree the founder, of the Botanical Museum; with which in 1843 he incorporated his own collection of grasses, estimated by M. Meyer to contain from 35,000 to 40,000 specimens belonging to 5000 species. These numbers may well be regarded as enormous, when we reflect that M. Kunth's Enumeration of the family, including a great number of doubtful species, scarcely exceeds 3000. With such vast resources at his disposal, we may expect from M. Ruprecht, who has been associated with M. Trinius in several of his later memoirs, and who has attached himself particularly to the study of the Grasses, large contributions to our knowledge of this important family.

M. Trinius was, as we are informed, an intimate friend of Chamisso, and like him mingled a genius for poetry with his botanical pursuits.